

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5774

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 4 PEKING 1054

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E.O. 11652: XGDS'9

TAGS: PFOR CH US

SUBJECT: TEXT OF AMB GATES JUNE 10 MEETING WITH PREMIER

HUA KUO-FENG

REF: PEKING 1048

1. THE FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF AMB GATES MEETING WITH PREMIER HUA KUO-FENG AT THE GREAT HALL OF THE PEOPLE ON JUNE 10, 1976. MEETING LASTED FROM 5-6:45 P.M. IN ADDITION TO THE PREMIER CHINESE PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED MFA AMERICAN AND OCEANIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR LIN PING, PROTOCOL DIRECTOR CHU CHUAN-HSIEN, AND MFA AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIVISION CHIEF TING YUAN-HUNG, AND NOTE TAKER. DEPUTY DIRECTOR AOA DEPARTMENT TANG WEN-SHENG (NANCY) INTERPRETED. AMB GATES WAS ACCOMPANIED BY DCM THAYER, ECON COUNSELOR THOMAS, ACTING POL COUNSELOR PASCOE AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT PERITO. THE MEETING BEGAN AT 5:00 PM AND LASTED FOR ONE HOUR AND FORTY-FIVE MINUTES. BEGIN TEXT:

2. GATES: I GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR SEEING ME, ESPECIALLY SINCE YOU HAVE BEEN SO BUSY.

3. HUA: I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR WELCOME TO YOU. I AM SORRY I HAVE TAKEN SO LONG TO SEE YOU. YOU ARRIVED ON MAY 6 AND IT IS NOW JUNE 10. SINCE YOU ARRIVED WE HAVE HAD MANY VISITORS. FIRST I MET WITH PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO, AND THEN I MET WITH THE KING OF NEPAL IN SZECHWAN AND TIBET. (WHEN WALKING WITH AMB-ASSADOR INTO MEETING ROOM, HUA ALREADY HAD APOLOGIZED ONCE FOR THIS

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DELAY.)

4. GATES: I HAVE RECEIVED A WARM WELCOME. I HAVE ALREADY SEEN FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, AND I HAD DINNER WITH VICE FOREIGN MINISTER.

5. HUA: AND THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE?

6. GATES: YES, OF COURSE. IF YOU WILL PERMIT ME, I HAVE A FEW REMARKS WHICH PRESIDENT FORD HAS ASKED ME TO MAKE TO YOU.

7. I WELCOME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOU. I LOOK FORWARD TO MY STAY IN PEKING AND TO WORKING WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT TO PROMOTE THE MUTUAL INTERESTS OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE REGARDING BOTH VARIOUS GLOBAL MATTERS AND OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS.

8. PRESIDENT FORD HAS ASKED ME TO CONVEY TO YOU PERSONALLY HIS CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD WISHES ON YOUR APPOINTMENT AS PREMIER. I WOULD LIKE TO ADD MY OWN CONGRATULATIONS.

9. I BELIEVE YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE LETTER FROM PRESIDENT FORD WHICH I BROUGHT WITH ME, IN WHICH HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT WE COULD EXCHANGE VIEWS ON BOTH INTERNATIONAL MATTERS AND OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.

10. AS PRESIDENT FORD HAS EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS ON MANY OF THESE MATTERS DURING HIS VISIT TO PEKING IN DECEMBER, I WILL NOT COVER ALL OF THE SAME GROUND AGAIN. HOWEVER, HE HAS ASKED ME TO REITERATE SEVERAL BASIC POINTS, AS WELL AS TO COMMENT ON SOME RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WORLD.

11. IN HIS LETTER AND IN HIS MESSAGE TO YOU UPON YOUR APPOINTMENT AS PREMIER, PRESIDENT FORD REAFFIRMED OUR COMMITMENT TO COMPLETE THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES THROUGH JOINT EFFORTS BASED ON THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE. HE HAS ASKED ME TO REITERATE THAT THIS IS OUR FIRM POLICY AND TO SAY HE IS CONFIDENT THAT THOUGH WE CAN ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVE OF FULLY NORMALIZED RELATIONS.

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12. WE RESPECT YOUR VIEW THAT UNTIL THAT TIME, THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF SOME ASPECTS OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP MAY NOT BE FEASIBLE. NEVERTHELESS, WE WILL WELCOME ANY SUGGESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING WAYS IN WHICH OUR RELATIONSHIP CAN BE STRENGTHENED IN OUR MUTUAL INTEREST. I AM PREPARED ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS WITH YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES AT ANY TIME.

13. ON INTERNATIONAL TOPICS, I WOULD FIRST LIKE TO REFER TO OUR POLICY TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION. BECAUSE OF DIFFERING CIRCUMSTANCES, OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT POLICIES, AND WE RESPECT THE DECISION YOUR COUNTRY HAS MADE REGARDING YOUR POLICY. FOR OUR PART, WE HAVE A DUAL POLICY. WHILE WE WISH TO IMPROVE OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THE USSR AND STABILIZE THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM, THE UNITED STATES IS DETERMINED TO RESIST SOVIET EXPANSIONS--AND OBJECTIVE WHICH OUR TWO COUNTRIES SHARE EVEN IF OUR TACTICS MAY DIFFER.

14. AS YOU MAY KNOW, SOME YEARS AGO I SERVED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, INCLUDING A PERIOD AS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, IN FACT I WAS THERE FOR EIGHT YEARS AND I HAVE MAINTAINED MY INTEREST IN US DEFENSE MATTERS. I CAN THEREFORE SPEAK FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE ABOUT THE DETERMINATION OF THE UNITED STATES TO MAINTAIN A STRONG MILITARY POSTURE. PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER ARE ABSOLUTELY COMMITTED TO THIS GOAL WHICH IS REFLECTED IN THE PRESIDENT'S CURRENT DEFENSE BUDGET. DESPITE SOME OF THE RHETORIC IN OUR ELECTION PROCESS, THE US CLEARLY REMAINS THE NUMBER ONE POWER IN THE WORLD IN TERMS OF MILITARY, ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL POWER. WE INTEND TO REMAIN SO. AND IT APPEARS THAT THE CONGRESS IS NOW INCREASING ITS SUPPORT TO THIS END.

15. WE HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE SOVIET UNION, AND ON THIS POINT ALSO, THERE IS GROWING AWARENESS AMONG THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OF THE SOVIET UNION'S HEGEMONIC AMBITIONS.

16. AS YOU KNOW FROM YOUR OWN COUNTRY'S EXPERIENCE, IN A COMPLEX AND GLOBAL MATTER SUCH AS THIS ONE, THERE WILL BE OCCASIONAL SETBACKS AS WELL AS SUCCESSES. THE OUTCOME IN ANGOLA WAS SUCH A SETBACK TO OUR MUTUAL INTERESTS. IF WE, TOGETHER WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, HAD BEEN ABLE TO CONTINUE
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OUR SUPPORT OF THE ANTI-SOVIET ELEMENTS IN ANGOLA, THE OUTCOME WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT.

17. WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO THE SOVIET UNION, BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY, THAT WE WILL REACT STRONGLY TO FURTHER EFFORTS BY THE SOVIETS TO EXPAND THEIR INFLUENCE BY MILITARY MEANS OR MILITARY PRESSURE WHETHER DIRECTLY OR, AS IN ANGOLA, THROUGH SUPPLY OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND SUPPORT OF THE CUBAN TROOPS. WE HAVE ALSO STATED THAT FURTHER SOVIET ACTIONS LIKE THEIR INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA ARE BOUND TO HAVE A SERIOUS EFFECT ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS.

18. WE HAVE ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT ACCEPT FURTHER CUBAN MILITARY INTERVENTION ABROAD. WE ARE CONCERNED BY THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF CUBAN TROOPS IN

ANGOLA AND BY A POSSIBLE EFFORT TO USE THEM ELSEWHERE.

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